

**Fremont Conservation Commission**  
**12-03-07 Minutes**



**Fremont Conservation Commission**

**Minutes of December 3, 2007**

Approved January 7, 2008

Present: Chairman Jack Karcz, Members Janice O'Brien and Tina Sturdivant, Alternate Pat deBeer and Recording Secretary Meredith Bolduc.

At 7:40 pm Chrm. Karcz opened the meeting and appointed Alt. deBeer as a voting member for this meeting.

**MINUTES**

Mbr. Sturdivant made the motion to accept the minutes of the November 5, 2007 meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Mbr. O'Brien with unanimous favorable vote.

**GLEN OAKES FOREST & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Forester Charles Moreno, Carsten Springer

At 7:40 pm Mr. Moreno met with the Commission, at the Commission's request, to report on the status of the Glen Oaks Forest & Wildlife Management Plan. Mr. Moreno related that, due to his involvement with a couple of other projects, including the Southeast Land Trust project in Newfields, he is behind schedule. He added that he had gathered some maps and photos to get the Fremont project started, but has not begun the field work.

Mr. Moreno submitted a new projects schedule that calls for the resources including maps and aerial photos, fieldwork including data analysis, preliminary forest typing, data summaries, overall property reconnaissance and mapping including locus and soils all to be done in January and February. He stated that at this point he will be ready to meet with the Commission again for a status report. This new schedule listed management objectives, detailed reconnaissance, mapping including natural features and forest typing, wildlife habitat types and specific features, natural communities/forest type descriptions, community usage, natural resource assessment, partial completion of the introduction, forest protection, logistics and appendices sections all to be completed during February and March. To be completed in April and May are the wildlife inventory, invasive plant reconnaissance, completion of the introduction, forest protection, logistics and appendices, completion of forestry and wildlife recommendation, mapping recommendations.

There was a general discussion relative to the trapping of fur bearing animals including beaver. Mr. Moreno stated that he may contact the NH Fish & Game to get a suggestion about how to come up with a reasonable number of these animals in conjunction with the size of the area and amount of habitat so that limited trapping might be allowed. He will report the findings to the Commission. Mr. Springer

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suggested allowing trapping on a portion of the property and making the balance of the property off limits for trapping.

It was agreed that Mr. Moreno will meet with the Board at 7:30 on February 4, 2008. Mr. Moreno left the meeting at 8:05 pm.

**CARSTEN SPRINGER**  
Map 1 Lot 062

At 8:05 pm Mr. Springer met with the Commission relative to the replacement installation of a beaver control pipe by the State of New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED) on his property at the Danville/Fremont line on Rt 111A.

The Commission received a copy of a November 19, 2007 correspondence from NH DES to Mr. Springer advising him to submit a complete Standard Dredge and Fill application to retain the beaver control structure that was found to be on his property during a site visit. This beaver pipe replaced an old wooden beaver control structure and was installed in the streambed (a contradiction of RSA 482-A: 3).

Mr. Springer distributed a December 2, 2007 correspondence which clarified information in the November 19, 2007 DES letter. In this correspondence Mr. Springer stated that on May 11, 2005 NH DRED, Trails Bureau, contacted him requiring correction of erosion of public trails due to a beaver dam on his property. DRED then replaced wooden beaver control pipes that had been installed 37 years earlier. On August 24, 2007 DES contacted him requesting a site visit which was completed on September 19, 2007. This visit confirmed that the replacement pipe was placed next to the previous wooden beaver control pipe and that this dam was constructed against and on top of a previously existing roadbed. (these details were referenced in the DES field report of the visit.) Mr. Springer added that as a follow-up to the DES letter to him, he has contacted DES and will be completing any further paperwork. Mr. Springer wrote "I would like it to be clearly understood that the existence of a beaver control pipe in this location has functioned very well over the past 37 years. Beavers continue to live in the area without the extreme highs and lows of the water table that their unfettered activity could create. As the property owner, I appreciate the opportunity to establish open lines of communication with the Conservation Commission, even though the replacement of the beaver control pipe was required by state law and performed by the State of New Hampshire." He showed a photo of the beaver control pipe.

Mr. Springer wanted to make it clear that this pipe was not installed by him, but was installed by the State of New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED) and he is in the process of dealing with DES on the issue. Mr. Springer stated that he was not required to submit permit applications, DRED was. He explained that this was first cleared with DES. Chrm. Karcz stated that it sounds like an inter-agency problem. Chrm. Karcz explained that the Conservation Commission is advisory and has no authority with the State Boards. Mr. Springer stated that he

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understands that DRED is going to file the necessary paperwork with DES to take care of this problem and he just

wanted the Commission to be aware that it was not him that did the work and he has contacted the State several times to straighten out the problem. Mr. Springer stated that the property is posted, but if at any time the Conservation Commission wants to visit the site, please contact him and he will be glad to conduct a visit.

#### **NATURAL RESOURCES OUTREACH COALITION (NROC)/ NRI**

Chrm. Karcz reported that Alt. deBeer has corrected the replacement CD of the NRI text submitted by Theresa Walker to include updates to the Oak Ridge section and Glen Oakes histories that Alt. deBeer worked on as well as some additional pictures. This is still minus the maps which are not yet ready.

#### **TOWN FOREST/OAK RIDGE/LOOP TRAIL**

There was a general discussion relative to the placement of the arrow signs near the ridge on the Oak Ridge trail.

#### **ERLAC**

##### Geosyntec Report/Watershed Restoration Plan Update

Mbr. Sturdivant reported that at the November ERLAC meeting Bob Hartzel, of Geosyntec, did a "Vulnerability Analysis Final Report and Next Steps" slide presentation of the eleven Subwatersheds that were previously voted on and approved by ERLAC. She related that the only thing in the slide show that would be of interest to Fremont was the erosion problem found on the Phillips dam in Brentwood. This may transition into creating management plans and coming up with implement plans. Theresa Walker of RPC and/or Sally Soule of NHDES may want to meet with the Conservation Commission for further explanations.

Alt. deBeer attended the Geosyntec presentation and found it difficult to follow for someone who had not attended all the sessions. She stated that the process of developing a watershed restoration management plan and the actions discussed for improving specific sites was very interesting. Geosyntec provided examples of successful implementations of the solutions proposed for specific sites in the Exeter River Watershed in this presentation. The success stories based on projects in other locations were interesting and provided strong support for the strategies proposed.

##### Watershed Restoration Plan

Mbr. Sturdivant related that Theresa Walker is planning to meet with the town to go over the water restoration plan and explain all of the elements required by Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the subwatershed plans.

##### Watershed Tour

Alt. deBeer stated that she went on the ERLAC watershed tour and found it very interesting. This was a bus tour that started at RiverWoods in Exeter, went to Chester and back to RiverWoods. ERLAC feels that there should be more tours.

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#### River Signs

Mbr. Sturdivant reported that she has an opportunity to order a River Sign for the Rail Trail and asked for a consensus of the Members approval. This sign was originally included in the number of signs ordered, but was used to create a double-sided sign for one area of the river. The consensus was to go ahead and order the additional sign.

There will be no ERLAC meeting in December.

#### **GLEN OAKES**

It was noted that the Open Space Committee has organized an hour long Owl Walk at the Glen Oaks Conservation Area for Friday December 7, 2007 at 7:30 pm. Terry Bronson, volunteer with NH Audubon Society and a resident of Fremont will lead the walk.

#### **TREASURERS REPORT**

Chrm. Karcz reported that Town Treasurer Kimberly Dunbar has notified the Commission of the November 28, 2007 CD renewal date. It has been renewed for another 90 days at a reinvestment rate of 4.49% with an expiration date of February 26, 2008.

#### **BUDGET**

The Commission reviewed the General Leger expenditure report for the date ending November 29, 2007. There was a conversation relative to the dues line #4610-008 being minus \$60. It was agreed to draft a letter to the Selectmen requesting a line item transfer of \$60 from 4610-006 (Meetings & Seminars) to 4610-008 (CC Dues NHAC) to cover this line.

#### **INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no incoming correspondence.

Alt. deBeer made the motion to adjourn at 8:50 pm.

Motion seconded by Mbr. Sturdivant with unanimous favorable vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Bolduc